

Frequency Coordination for Minor Amendments

Our greatest concern relates to several commenters who indicated that the requirement for frequency coordination of Point-to-Point Microwave stations should be eliminated in the case of minor amendments. For example, Nextel Communications Inc., on page 6 of their Comments, proposes that frequency coordination only be required for major technical amendments and modifications.

The requirement to conduct frequency coordination notifications for a change in any of the technical parameters, whether major or minor, is needed to ensure interference-free operation and maximum spectrum utilization. A change of even one second in latitude or longitude could have significant effects on the interference environment in the case of a short microwave path or in the case of a station located relatively close to another station. In both of these cases, the one second change could result in a significant change in azimuth of the desired or interference path. Frequency coordination will allow for both the determination of non-interference as well as the ability to maintain an accurate data base for both interference protection and utilization of new paths.

The NSMA is not concerned with the application filing procedure as such, but only with the necessity of frequency coordination for any change which might affect the interference environment.

Area Wide Licensing

Teligent, Inc. comments that area wide licensing should be established for Digital Electronic Message Service [DEMS] stations. While a DEMS licensee might be able to conduct an interference evaluation with respect to its own nodal station installations, it would not be able to do so with respect to those in neighboring areas. The only way to ensure interference free operation between different licensees would be to conduct frequency coordination. Since the 10 GHz DEMS stations operate on frequencies

which are also authorized for other fixed microwave operation, Teligent's proposal for area wide licensing should not apply to these grandfathered stations.

The NSMA is actively working on methods and procedures for frequency coordination in those areas which presently utilize area wide licensing. This includes both the 38 GHz band and PCS [NSMA Recommendation WG20.97.048, Inter-PCS Co-block Coordination Procedures].

Conclusion

The NSMA is interested in procedures which promote, in an efficient, but effective manner, the exchange of information required for the adequate design and subsequent implementation of communications systems. The NSMA believes its original Comments and these Reply Comments will serve that goal.

Respectfully submitted,

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I Katherine M. Falkenthal, hereby certify that on this 15th day of June 1998, I served a copy of the foregoing Reply Comments to be sent by first-class mail, postage prepaid to the following:

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